

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are all the claims pending in the application. The Examiner has not allowed any claims. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-11 and has replaced them with new claims 12-14, which should be allowable, as subsequently discussed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C # 102

Claims 1-11 are rejected under U.S.C. # 102(b) as anticipated by Davies et al (US Patent No 6392561 B1). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

The rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims. Moreover, new claims 12-14 would be allowable for the following reasons.

Davies et al

The Examiner indicates that Davies et al discloses a rotary non-contact connector (Figs. 1-3) comprising: a rotary transformer composed of a rotor that has a rotor-side transformer winding and an annular stator that is concentric with the rotor and has a stator-side transformer winding (col. 8, lines 1-55); a rotating-side transceiver provided on the rotor (col. 11, lines 2-51); and a stationary-side radio transceiver that is fixedly disposed to oppose the rotating-side radio transceiver, wherein electric power is supplied to the rotor through the intermediary of the rotary transformer to perform radio communication (col. 13, line 14- col. 14, line 67; col. 19, line 13- col. 20, line 67; col. 21, line 35- col. 22, line 27).

Applicants note that Davies et al specifically disclose that “in the preferred embodiment the transmitter (140) further includes a transmitter processor (152) for receiving the information to be communicated and for generating the modulated transmitter electrical signal, a transmitter amplifier (154) for amplifying the transmitter electrical signal before it is sent to the transmitter

coil (144), and a transmitter power supply (156) for providing electrical energy to the transmitter (140)” (col. 13, line 67- col. 14 line 6).

Further, Davies et al disclose that “in the preferred embodiment, the receiver (142) further includes a receiver processor (166) for processing the modulated receiver electrical signal, a receiver amplifier (168) for amplifying the receiver electrical signal after it is received from the axial conducting loop (42), and a receiver power supply (170) for providing electrical energy to the receiver (142)” (col. 14, lines 50-59).

Moreover, Davies et al disclose that “in the preferred embodiment the transmitter power supply (156) serves to energize the transmitter (140) and any sensors which provide information to the transmitter (140) and any sensors which provide information to the transmitter (140) for communication to the receiver (142), and the receiver power supply (170) serves to energize the receiver (142) and any sensors which provide information to the receiver (142) for communication to the transmitter (140)” (col. 23 lines 51-57).

Thus, the transmitter power supply (156) of Davies et al does not supply electric power to the rotor through the intermediary of the rotary transformer to perform radio communication. Similarly, the receiver power supply (170) does not supply electric power through the rotary transformer. In short, each of the transmitter and receiver have their own respective power supplies and there is no need for transmitting power across the rotor.

Claims 12-14

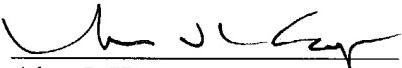
By contrast, the present invention as defined in present independent claim 12 requires power to be communicated across the rotor. Thus, the claim cannot be anticipated by Davies et al, as it has no power communicated across the rotor. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Moreover, the use of a transformer to convey power from one side of the rotor to the other is not obvious from the teachings of Davies et al.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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